Fern Prairie: Before It Disappears
"Fern Prairie Cemetery Memorial weekend 2026"
Photograph: Jeanette Jester
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A view of Fern Prairie Cemetery near Grove Field in Camas, Washington, photographed during Memorial Day weekend 2026 and submitted by Jeanette Jester.

This is the first contribution to Fern Prairie: Before It Disappears, an ongoing community record of the Fern Prairie landscape and the people, places, and memories connected to it. The collection will include historic and contemporary photographs, family stories, videos, recollections, farms, roads, open fields, homes, public places, and other pieces of the area's history.

Fern Prairie Cemetery is a pioneer cemetery located near the airport and the rural area where I grew up. Photographs such as this help document not only individual places, but the larger landscape surrounding them as Camas continues expanding northward.

The purpose of this project is to preserve a record of Fern Prairie as it exists—and as people remember it—before more of the landscape is altered or disappears beneath roads, development, and city expansion.

About this project: These photographs and recollections were voluntarily contributed by members of the Facebook group Forgotten Camas Washougal. Some entries may contain only a photograph, while others may include a location, a personal memory, an extended family history, or additional historical material. Contributors may be identified by name, remain anonymous, or choose not to provide an exact address. We are taking the material as it comes, in whatever form people wish to share it, and preserving it as part of an ongoing community record of Fern Prairie—its landscape, its families, and the lives connected to it.